



THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

News Release

For Immediate Release: February 9, 2019

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National Weather Service issues High Wind Warning; Kīlauea Holding Center will open at 8 p.m.

LĪHU'E – The National Weather Service has issued a High Wind Warning effective 4 a.m. Sunday, as damaging winds with gusts of up to 60 MPH are expected. A High Surf Warning for all north and west-facing shores of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau also remains in effect through Monday morning.

With NOAA/NWS forecasting potentially unprecedented coastal flooding due to the combination of dangerous surf and high winds, those in areas prone to coastal flooding or erosion, particularly along the North Shore, should strongly consider evacuating their homes. Volunteers with the American Red Cross will open a holding center at the Kīlauea Gym as of 8 p.m. Saturday night. Residents in the restricted areas of Wainiha-Hā'ena are advised that the convoy is on an open/holiday schedule as of 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

"County, state, and federal partners continue to monitor this system and are preparing to respond to all emergencies, as necessary," stated Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami. "Damaging winds and surf could result in property damage, power outages and hazardous driving conditions. We are advising all residents and visitors to heed weather alerts and be prepared."

The County of Kaua'i has closed all north and west-facing beach parks, from Kekaha to Anahola, until further notice. The public is advised to stay out of the water and away from shorelines. Entering the water could result in significant injury or death.

The Kekaha Landfill and the Kekaha HI5 Redemption Center are also closed.



The public is also advised to be prepared for power outages as strong winds could result in fallen trees and downed power lines.

For emergency preparedness tips, please visit the Kaua'i Emergency Management Agency website at www.kauai.gov/KEMA.

For updates on road conditions and closures, please call 241-1725. Please do not call Kaua'i police 911 unless you have an emergency.

For weather updates call the National Weather Service automated weather line at 245-6001, or visit the NWS website, www.weather.gov/hawaii.

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